

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

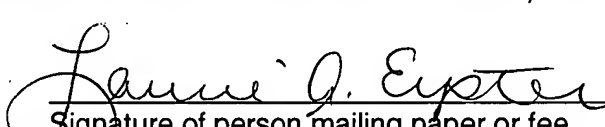
In re patent application of:)	
)	
Liu et al.)	Before the Examiner
)	Not Yet Known
Serial No. FILED HEREWITH)	
)	
Filed July 10, 2003)	Group Art Unit
)	Not Yet Known
SPINAL IMPLANT METHOD AND)	
CUTTING TOOL PREPARATION)	
ACCESSORY FOR MOUNTING THE)	
IMPLANT)	

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Patent Application
 Commissioner for Patents
 PO Box 1450
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Please consider this Preliminary Amendment in the above-captioned application prior to examination. Any additional necessary fees may be charged to or overpayment credited to Deposit Account No. 23-3030, but not to include payment of issue fees.

Express Mail Label No.	EV 332718269 US	Date of Deposit	July 10, 2003
I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR Section 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450			
 Signature of person mailing paper or fee			